

CONFIDENTIAL

MINUTES OF THE SEVENTH MEETING OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON EXPLOITATION
OF FOREIGN DOCUMENTS

1446, 1340 L Street, NW, Washington, 6 June 1949

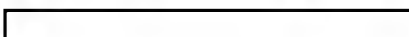
Present: Mr. J. J. Bagnall, Chairman
Mr. Theodore Nordbeck, Department of State
Lt. Cdr. W. A. Tilling, Department of Navy
Mr. R. P. McHair, Alternate, Department of Army

Consultants from FDB:



Consultant from Department of Army: Mr. Jerome Rubin

Observer from



1. Soviet Book Abstracts

Due to technical difficulties making the previously considered format impracticable, the Committee was requested to consider the feeling of their respective agencies toward receiving abstracts of Soviet books on regular Report forms. This method will assure greater speed in reporting and allow for more information on the books than could be included in the card format.

2. China

The FDB study of Chinese publications of intelligence value indicates that 104 newspapers and 42 periodicals are currently within that category. FDB is now receiving regularly 8 newspapers and 12 periodicals.

The office of the MA in Shanghai has been exploiting the Chinese press for biographical information. Continuance of this activity is uncertain. This field exploitation of Chinese press however is not adequate for the IAC Agencies. No Washington exploitation other than that being performed by FDB is currently being done. There is a great need for broader coverage, especially on the provincial press in order to furnish the Department of State with Political, Economic, Sociological and Biographic information, and the military establishment with Military, Naval, Air and Biographic information over and above that presently being provided by Attaches and other field services.

3. Korea

USAFIK is presently exploiting the South Korean press. Continuance of this activity is in doubt. FDB is the only agency

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exploiting North Korean publications. North Korean information is greatly needed by all agencies. Emphasis should be placed on the exploitation of North Korean publications for all categories of information, and South Korean publications should be exploited for Biographic and Military information over and above that presently being reported.

4. Japan

The present exploitation and reporting of SCAP is satisfactory to all agencies on general categories of information, however incidental exploitation may be required from time to time. Members will determine whether any Scientific coverage is presently being received and whether such information is needed by IAC Agencies.

5. French Indochina

Spot information is reported from the field, believed to be extracted only from the French press. This service is not adequate for the IAC Agencies and there is a need for exploitation of both the French and Vernacular publications for Economic, Military, Air and Naval information, and of the Vernacular publications for Political and Sociological information.

6. Siam

Some exploitation of Siamese newspapers is now being done in the field but it is not adequate for the IAC Agencies. There is a need for exploitation of the publications of Siam, especially the periodicals for Military, Air, Naval, Economic and Biographic information over and above that now being reported.

7. Burma

Present coverage of the Rangoon Press by the Embassy is adequate. However, there is a need for coverage of other local papers and periodicals.

8. Indonesia

83 newspapers and 31 periodicals of intelligence value have been noted. Of these FDB is now receiving regularly 6 newspapers and 6 periodicals. There is practically no exploitation in this field other than that done by FDB. There is great need for broader coverage of this important area in all categories of information.

9. Malaya

There is no exploitation of the publications of this area by any US agency. Department of State would like exploitation of

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Malay publications for Economic, Political, Sociological and Biographic information. Army and Navy representatives expressed no need for exploitation of publications of Malaya.

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10. The meeting adjourned at 1615.

11. The next meeting will be held at [redacted] Washington at 1400, 13 June 1949.

The agenda:

1. Unfinished business.
2. The Near East and Africa including Greece and India.

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